



The Outlook

Aug. 15, 2006

U.S. Army Garrisons Vicenza & Livorno

www.USAG.Vicenza.Army.Mil

Vol. 39 Issue 32



Above: Spc. Kamil Leavit hugs her husband after having been reunited after a year's deployment in Iraq Aug. 9. Soldiers from the 13th Platoon, 68th Transportation Company were reunited with their families that morning after spending a year supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. (Photos by Master Sgt. Todd Oliver, SETAF Public Affairs)



Welcome back Trans Company troops

Left: A member of the 3-68th Trans Company gets a huge hug from his daughter upon returning from a year in Iraq here Aug. 9. The company was based out of Al Asad Airbase, Iraq under the command of the 64th Combat Support Group, 3d COSCOM. The company drove approximately 3 million miles all over Iraq in support of their mission, with only one minor injury during the deployment.

Brigade transformation leads to deactivation of unit

Story and photo by Sgt. Brandon Aird
173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team
Public Affairs

The transformation of the 173d Airborne Brigade into a Airborne Brigade Combat Team means the end of the 74th Infantry Detachment (Long Range Surveillance), which has been with the brigade since its reactivation four years ago.

During that time, the LRSD Soldiers have seen numerous training deployments and two year-long combat deployments.

The detachment was first constituted Dec. 20, 1967 in Vietnam and was deactivated in February 1969. The detachment was reactivated Oct. 16, 2002 in Vicenza, Italy.

The 74th LRSD has always had the prestige of being the elite company of the brigade, as almost all the NCOs are ranger-qualified, having come from other LRS units. Other members are selected from the brigade's infantry battalions, with junior enlisted Soldiers hand-picked by the brigade's command sergeant major.

The reason behind this is to have the best Soldiers in the brigade in the forward element when it comes time for war, said Staff Sgt. Geoffrey Stone, a former 74th LRSD Soldier.

When the 173d Abn Bde paratroopers were climbing into C-17 Globemaster III preparing to jump into northern Iraq, a team from the 74th LRSD was already on the ground. Along with Soldiers from Joint Special Operation Task Force North,

they were helping provide overwatch of the drop zone and prepare for the brigade's arrival. They had been inserted under the cover of darkness March 24, 2003.

While in Iraq, the LRSD conducted numerous missions along the former regime's "green line." When the 173d Abn Bde raced in from Bashur to Kirkuk, the LRSD helped secure key oil infrastructures in the Kirkuk region, which helped secure a source of revenue for the city of Kirkuk.

After May 3, LRSD troops conducted security and stabilization missions, as well as zone reconnaissance missions in and around the Ottoman Province.

On Dec. 27, 2003, the LRSD relieved the 101st LRS Company of their mission of controlling border operations between Iran and Iraq in the Al Sulayimanya Province of northern Iraq. The company was responsible for the security of over 700 linear kilometers of the international border.

The LRSD went on to spent 333 days in Iraq and unfortunately left Iraq short one Soldier – Sgt. Sean Reynolds who died May 3 from non-combat related injuries.

After returning to Vicenza in March 2004, LRSD was busy with training deployments to Germany and getting ready for the next deployment, which lurked right around the corner.

The LRSD left Vicenza March 23, 2005 and arrived the following day in Manas, Kyrgystan. Seven days later, the company flew into Kandahar, Afghanistan and walked right into a logistical nightmare.

LRSD went into an alien environment with no vehicles, heavy weapons or even mounts for the heavy weapons.

"For 19 days we scrounged, acquired, asked, begged and ordered enough equipment so we could leave Kandahar and move out to Forward Operating Base Price," said Sgt. Jason W. Boone, a former LRSD Soldier.

The company spent the next several months learning the terrain and their enemy, conducting numerous successful operations.

While in the Washir Mountains observing a terrorist training camp, one of the LRSD teams was compromised – the subsequent firefight destroyed the terrorist camp, killing numerous insurgents.

On the heels of that mission, Operations Thunderstruck and Unforgiven took place within weeks of each other and delivered a crushing blow to the enemy – killing more than 40 enemy forces, but with no injury the American forces.

The first casualty of the deployment came in October when Pvt. Benny Franklin, an 82nd Airborne Division Soldier attached to the LRSD, died when an explosive device went off during a final mission to Qual Yeh' Gaz.



A Soldier from the 74th Infantry Detachment (Long Range Surveillance) stands guard during a patrol in a village northeast of Kirkuk, Iraq July 7, 2003.

It was during December when the LRSD encountered a better skilled, experienced and more intelligent enemy.

On Dec. 12, the Soldiers began a mission to Mianeshin when, after a three-day cordon and searching suspected enemy locations, Sgt. 1st Class John Morton, communications chief, was shot by a sniper while fixing communications equipment on top of a Humvee.

The company's deployment ended with the brigade returning to Vicenza in March 2006. The company lost two American and numerous Afghan National Army Soldiers during the deployment, but inflicted heavy casualties against the Taliban Forces.

"The detachment fought the enemy across the Helmand and Kandahar provinces – moving tremendous distances under the cover of darkness, operating decentralized with a mixture of ANA, police and security forces conducting sweeping complex assaults and cordons resulting in the enemy reacting to our tactics," said Capt. Dirk Ringgenberg, former LRSD commander. "This allowed us to control each and every fight. I'm proud of these guys. Our mission was constantly changing, but the men never missed a beat and took the changes as a challenge to accomplish the mission. They took the fight directly to the enemy – as it should be."



Sgt. 1st Class Randy Collins, former acting first sergeant of 74th Infantry Detachment (Long Range Surveillance), points toward an incoming C-130 dropping off humanitarian supplies just outside of Bagram Valley, Afghanistan. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jacob Caldwell, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs)

Safety Countermeasure

Traffic crashes are the number one killer of young children

Command Safety Office
Press Release

Before you hit the open road, there are a few things you need to take care of.

You need to make sure your engine is running smoothly, your tires are properly inflated, and if you'll be traveling with children, you have the equipment to keep them properly restrained.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, traffic crashes are the number one killer of young children.

NHTSA statistics show nearly half of the deaths and injuries involving children is because the children were not properly restrained.

One of the mistakes parents make is graduating their children from car seats to seatbelts when they should really be in booster seats.

Another mistake is not securing the straps tightly for children who are in car seats. Countries and states have requirements that infants and children ride buckled up. However, laws do not always mandate the safest way to transport a child.

So what is the safest way? The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that infants always ride in the back seat – in rear-facing car seats until they are at least a year old and 20 pounds.

Switching a child to a forward facing car seat too soon could result in an unnecessary injury.

There are a number of car seats on the market that are considered safe for babies at the in-between



It is estimated that 8 out of 10 seats are improperly installed. Read the instructions carefully and double check to be certain you have installed the seat correctly. (Outlook file photo)

stage. So-called convertible car seats can be used as rear-facing until the child is up to 35 pounds, or forward-facing until they are around 40 pounds.

Car seats typically come with three different types of restraints: 5-point harness, T-shield, and overhead shield. Just because a child has reached the top weight or height allowed for his or her car seat, it doesn't mean it's time for them to switch over to a regular seatbelt.

At 3 or 4 years of age, most children are still too short to be safely secured by a seatbelt.

If they are not at least 4 feet 9 inches tall, they need the added protection of a booster seat.

Despite the best intentions, parents don't always install or use the correct car seat. It is estimated that 8 out of 10 seats are improperly installed.

Follow these guidelines for each of the listed seats to ensure your child's safety:

Infant Seats: Must be used in a rear-facing position until child is at least 12 months old and weighs at least 20 pounds. *Never place this type of seat in front of an airbag.* The preferred location is in the back seat in the middle of the car.

Never hold your baby in your lap when the vehicle is in motion. Your child's head should be at least 1 inch below the top of the child seat.

Toddler Seats: These should be in the forward-facing position for children between 20 and 40 pounds and over 1 year of age.

The harness should fit snugly with room for no more than one finger between the harness and your child's collarbone.

Forward-facing safety seats reduce the fatality risk by 54 percent.

Booster Seats: Use forward-facing only. A high-back booster with built-in harness is for children between 30 and 40 pounds.

Harness should be replaced by adult lap and shoulder belt when child reaches 40 pounds.

Always use both shoulder and adult lap belt when using booster seats. Shoulder belt should cross the chest, not the stomach. Make sure seat belt fastens and there is no slack.

Another critical factor is to properly secure the seat itself in the vehicle. Read the instructions carefully and double check to be certain you have installed the seat

correctly. Check the seat to ensure it has remained secured prior to each trip.

For more information, visit the NHTSA Web site at www.nhtsa.gov and click on "Traffic Safety" than "Child Passenger Safety."

There are many informative links on this site. Also visit the American Academy of Pediatrics Web site on child seat safety at www.aap.org/family/carseatguide.htm.

Car seat and Booster seat tips

- Use the right seat for your child's weight and development.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for correct car seat installation and use.

- Be sure to secure your child correctly. Make sure harness straps are snug and tight. Use a tether strap with a forward-facing car seat. Keep children away from active air bags.

Children 13 years of age and under are safest in the back seat.

- Use caution when buying or using a pre-owned child car seat. Buy new, or from someone you know, and check it carefully. Make sure the car seat has:

1. Instructions and all necessary hardware
2. Not been in a collision
3. Not expired or is not older than 10 years
4. No discolored (stress) marks or cracks and the harness is not worn or torn.

(Editor's Note: This information was obtained from the Ontario, Canada, Minister of Transportation Web site at www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/safety/carseat/choose.htm)

Travel Warning

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is immediately implementing following changes to airport screening procedures:

No liquids or gels of any kind will be permitted in carry-on baggage. These items must be put in checked baggage. This includes all beverages, shampoo, suntan lotion, creams, tooth paste, hair gel, and other items of similar consistency.

Exceptions: Baby formula and breast milk if a baby or small child is traveling; prescription medicine with a name that matches the passenger's ticket; and insulin and essential other non-prescription medicines.

Beverages purchased in the sterile area must be consumed before boarding because they will not be permitted onboard the aircraft.

Passengers traveling from the U.K. to the U.S. will be subject to a more extensive screening process.

Some measures will not be visible to the public. In light of the elevated threat level, the Federal Air Marshals Service will provide expanded mission coverage for flights from the United Kingdom to the United States.

These measures will be constantly evaluated and updated when circumstances warrant. For more information on this topic, visit www.state.gov.

Community Action Council

This forum is to discuss issues affecting the community. If you have an issue you wish to submit, visit the USAG Vicenza Web site at www.usag.vicenza.army.mil and click on the Community Action Council link. This link provides you the opportunity to review issues that have been previously submitted and responded to by post agencies. There is also a form available for you to submit any new issue you would like addressed. If you have questions, call 634-5222 or 0444-71-5222 from off post.

The command encourages you to identify yourself when submitting a CAC issue in order to be able to answer your concern directly.

The command also reminds the community that CAC issues submitted containing vulgar, derogatory or inflammatory language will not be addressed.

Childcare is offered during the CAC at \$4 per hour, per child, for children ages 6 weeks old through kindergarten from 8:45-11:15 a.m. Preregistration is required. Children will be cared for in the Child Development Center, building 395. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services Central Registration. Call 634-7219 or stop by their location in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

The next CAC will be Aug. 23 beginning at 10 a.m. in the Ederle Theater.

Issue: Employment Assistance for Spouses – *My wife has been applying for positions on Caserma Ederle for a month now with no reasonable help from the employment office. I believe the reason is because she is Italian and is discriminated against. I was under the impression that we as Americans gave jobs to qualified persons not just because they were*

born on U.S. soil. I am disappointed that she as a college graduate in economics, who can speak four languages and does not qualify for a job at the [health] clinic, sitting behind a desk.

Recommendation: *Hire people on their credentials not on where they were born. My wife and all other wives who are Local Nationals deserve the same opportunities as U.S. citizens. After all they are part of the military community as well.*

Response from the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center: Both the U.S. Code and the Code of Federal Regulations require U.S. citizenship in order to be employed under the U.S. system. Under the U.S. system, spouses of military members receive priority for employment.

Under our current labor contract, the U.S. Forces must consider hiring LN employees for all newly established manpower needs. In fact, the number of Italian and other EU employees greatly outnumbers the number of U.S. positions. The current negotiated employment regulations contain no preference or priority for military spouses within the Italian LN employment program.

Due to the hiring restrictions established by the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army that have been effective since June 5, 2006, the number of recruit actions has been drastically reduced, resulting in increased competition for those vacancies that have been recruited. This has caused a lot of frustration for job seekers in both the U.S. and LN employment programs.

CPAC is always happy to provide general information regarding the U.S. and LN hiring processes, and to provide individual counseling to applicants. Assistance is also available at the Employment Readiness Program office at Army Community Services.

Issue: Public Broadcasting of American

Locations – *No matter how long I watch AFN, I always see an OPSEC commercial. The Soldiers have classes about OPSEC and many times you read about OPSEC as well.*

I understand OPSEC is a BIG issue and we all know that. Now, my point is why is it that when you are driving on the Autostrada, there are signs that tell you exactly what direction to go to reach the installation and military housing? As you drive closer, there are signs that lead straight to Villaggio where the Americans live.

Now, I have thought about this for some time and can't seem to make sense of it. Several thoughts occurred. The only reason that I came up with is for the new-comers who should be met by the American Airport NCOIC. If they arrive after duty hours at the airport, there is a phone inside the baggage claim area that one can use to call a CQ number 24/7. Why would they need to go to Villaggio?

So, there is no real reason to have the signs as well as the American flag broadcasted. Again, what is the real point of OPSEC if we are broadcasting our location from a well driven highway with directions straight to where you and I both work and live?

Recommendation: *Take down all signs that give away our location.*

Response from the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security: This is not an OPSEC or Antiterrorism/Force Protection issue. Signs, placed on the Autostrada and along the road that direct individual(s) to Villaggio or Caserma Ederle, are used to assist new arrivals that are driving to our location.

Issue: Ederle Inn Bus Shuttle – *I often see servicemembers, family members, retirees, etc. with luggage and walking from the gate of Viale Della Pace to the Ederle Inn (and vice versa). Sometimes these individuals are in very bad weather. I am very surprised that a hotel*

this busy doesn't have shuttle bus services available.

Recommendation: *Have an official vehicle that upon request picks up and drops off customers from the gate to the hotel and vice versa.*

Response from the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation: Thank you for the opportunity to address your request for Shuttle Bus service at the Ederle Inn. In accordance with AR 215-1, MWR Activities and Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentalities, August 2005, and AR 58-1 Management, Acquisition, and Use of Motor Vehicles, August 2004, the use of lodging (government-owned) vehicles is limited to official lodging business. Transporting customers from the front gate to the Ederle Inn is not official lodging business.

While Army Lodging may be prohibited from providing this service, the garrison Directorate of Logistics does provide a shuttle service from the Ederle Inn and Building 1 to the Venice airport. The shuttle departs every three hours on duty days starting at 4 a.m., the last run for the day departs at 7 p.m. On weekends and holidays, both U.S. and Italian, the bus departs at 4 a.m., 7 a.m., and 10 a.m. This shuttle service uses a 44-passenger bus, and is available to both official and unofficial travelers.

DOL also runs a Mass Transit service connecting Caserma Ederle with the outlying areas of Villaggio, Tori, and Lerino; this service is available to all ID Card holders. For more information call 634-6916.

The CAC will be hosted at the Ederle Theater on Aug. 23 at 10 a.m.

Vicenza Elementary School welcomes aboard new principal

Story and photo by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

The new Vicenza Elementary School Principal Martha Parsons came to Vicenza from London, England, with 30 years of experience in education. Parsons was born in Missouri, the eldest daughter of a former DoDDS principal, and she spent her early childhood in France and Germany before the family settled

in Gunnison, Colorado. Upon completion of her BA in Elementary Education at Adams State College in Colorado, she taught two years in an old-fashioned rural school, complete with an authentic school bell tower. Eager to return to the adventures of her childhood, she joined DoDDS in 1977 as a second-grade teacher in Aschaffenburg, Germany. From there, Parsons taught transitional and traditional first grade in Izmir,

Turkey, where she fell in love with the people, culture, and carpets. Other assignments followed, and she went on to teach for 20 in England, beginning with six years at Lakenheath ES. While assigned to Lakenheath, she pursued training in staff development and was granted a one-year sabbatical to complete her MA in Curriculum and Instruction at Seattle Pacific University, completing her Masters’ Project in Issues of Staff Development. It was during this time that her aspiration of becoming a school administrator began to be realized. Two years after returning to Lakenheath, she became the assistant principal at Feltwell ES. “I think DoDDS has a terrific school system,” said Parsons. “I have loved all of my time in DoDDS, I really appreciate the military and working with them and

I’ve come to have extremely high regard for the military communities,” she said. Parsons believes that positive interaction between all people, regardless of height or age, is the most important factor in building and maintaining a successful school environment. She is committed to holding rigorous expectations for teaching and learning, involving parents and community, and providing a quality learning environment for all students and staff. In terms of educational philosophy, Parsons believes that relationships and the people part of the business are at the heart of it. Healthy relationships provide the foundation for growing and learning together according to her. “In the Mediterranean district, they believe in the three Rs, which is Rigor, Relevance and

Relationships,” she explained. “The rigor is the academic challenges that we try to set for each child and the relevance is trying to make the learning match things that the child can relate to and make sense out of, so has relevance in their lives somehow.” She is extremely excited about her new position as principal of Vicenza Elementary School, as well as becoming an active member of the community. “I already love being in Vicenza and Italy and I know I’m going to have a great time here,” she said. “One of the things that’s impressed me most about this community is how friendly and open everybody seems to be, they say ‘Good morning’, they make eye contact with you, they help you if you have your arms full. I’ve just been very very impressed... I’m going to love it here.”

Human Resources week can help develop career plans

By Cindy Pierson
Equal Employment Opportunity manager

“Pack Your Own Chute” is the theme for Human Resources Week held Aug. 23-25 in the Hall of Heroes. The event is sponsored by the Equal Employment Opportunity office and the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center-Vicenza. The event offers briefings designed to help employees to develop to their highest employment potential. Sessions will also educate family members and Soldiers interested in a career with the Federal government with presentations on employment readiness, job interviewing and the recruitment and selection process. “Pack Your Own Chute” is geared to motivating participants to take control of their own career growth by making themselves more competitive in today’s job market. To do this, they must establish career goals, be properly trained and be aware of some of the many career programs offered by the Army, such as the Career Management Program and the USAG Vicenza’s Installation Mentorship Program. Other enrichment strategies that

help us to get on the fast career track are mentoring and discussions with individuals who have moved up the career ladder and are willing to share their experiences on how they got there. “Pack Your Own Chute” can be the starting point for individuals who are in dead ended positions or need assistance in focusing on a structured career plan. To reserve a seat, please call the EEO Office at 634-7976 or 634-7804. **Human Resources Week events**
Aug. 23, 9:30 a.m. -noon:
- Recruitment/Selection Process
- Resume Writing
Aug. 23, 2-4 p.m.:
- Employment Readiness
- How to Ace the Interview
- Effective Interviewing: The Right Questions
Aug. 24, 9:30-11:30 a.m.:
- Career Management Program
- Installation Mentorship Program
Aug. 24, 2-4 p.m.:
- The National Security Personnel System
Aug. 25, 9:30-11:30 a.m.:
- Preparing for Leadership Roles
To reserve a seat, e-mail cynthia.pierson@setaf.army.mil, or call 634-7976 or 634-7084.

Changes made to School Lunch Program

AAFES Press Release
In the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, the U.S. Congress established a new requirement that all school districts with federally-funded school meal programs develop and implement wellness policies that address nutrition and physical activity by the start of the 2006-2007 school year. The greatest impact will be the elimination of fried foods and high-sugar drinks from the a-la-carte line. The school cafeteria offers two separate choices for lunch: The regular USDA reimbursable tray lunch and the a-la-carte serving line; otherwise known as the “Cool School Café.” The regular lunch is a pattern meal set forth and approved by an AAFES staff dietician following USDA guidelines for nutritional wholesomeness. *This is the only meal that is covered under the free and reduced school lunch program.* The a-la-carte lunch is a snack bar type serving line that sells a variety of food and snack items individually – all at full price. The accounts in the Fast Lane register system are **General** and

Meal. Please note that the use of both General and Meal are on one account. The **General account** allows child to eat anything, anywhere in the cafeteria. The only limitation is parental choice of a daily spending limit. To keep things simple, the General account, accepts all types of meal charges. Elementary School students can purchase only ice cream from the a-la carte line. To allow your child permission to purchase a-la-carte, breakfast items, or extra portions on the USDA line, parents must come in person to the cash cage to unlock the General account, even if money is present in that account. The a-la-carte line is not covered by the free and reduced lunch programs. The a-la-carte line can only be used by Middle and High School students. Parents of Elementary School students who are allowed ice cream must open a General account. The General account is automatically blocked by default, which means that children will only be able to purchase tray lunches using a pin. Accounts are set up similar to a rechargeable cell phone using a pin number. Money is deposited into your child’s account

and the pin number is used by your child to make charges against the account. **Meal accounts** are only for the the USDA tray selection. This entitlement is for those with free and reduced lunch authorizations and for those parents who do not want their child to eat any snack foods. Second trays and second helpings on the USDA line are also **not covered** by the meal account. The parent and the child are responsible for controlling the accounts and their balances. The AAFES staff at the school cafeteria can provide you with your child’s account balance. Parents will be notified of a zero account balance, but it is recommended that parents monitor the balance of a child’s account to avoid running out of money. We alert only that an account is at zero, therefore, if you receive this notice, please inquire and reconcile the account at the AAFES cash cage in the post exchange quickly. Reminder: All accounts were deactivated during the summer. Accounts are re-opened when a parent comes to the cash cage in the post exchange, fills out an application and selects a General or Meal account.

Changes to fuel point policy

Directorate of Logistics
Press Release

The DoD-funded renovation of the USAG Vicenza Directorate of Logistics Fuel Point is nearly completed. As a result, the fuel point will no longer dispense unleaded gasoline.

Effective immediately, all TMP vehicles that require unleaded fuel must go to the TMP Dispatch office, located across from Vehicle Inspection, and sign for unleaded fuel coupons from 10 a.m.-noon. This is the same procedure that users with diesel-fueled vehicles are currently executing.

Nutrition Tip from WIC Overseas

A great way to get the flavor from cheese but not all of the fat is to shred it. You use less and still have the taste. Try a flavorful cheese, such as parmesan or sharp cheddar—you get more flavor per ounce (The side benefit is that shredded cheese freezes well so you can buy it in bulk and it will last longer.)

WIC is a nutrition and supplemental food program. Call WIC Overseas at 634-6258 for more information.

At your service

by Laura Kreider

Name: Adreina Howard
Organization: ACS
Job title: New Parent Education and Support Program manager
How long in Vicenza: August 2005
What do you do for the community: The program is designed to support parents during pregnancy and up to the 4th birthday of their children.

We provide information to answer parenting questions about issues like growth and development, safety, nurturing routines, and more. We want help parents ease the stress involved with parenting. My office is located in Davis Family Readiness Center, 634-7567 or off post at 0444-71-7567.

The Outlook

Aug. 15, 2006 Vol. 39, Issue 32

SETAF Commander
Maj. Gen. Frank G. Helmick

USAG Vicenza Commander and Outlook Publisher
Col. Virgil S. L. Williams

Editor
Diana Bahr

The Outlook is an unofficial publication authorized and provided by AR 360-1. All editorial content of **The Outlook** is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Public Affairs Office in building 3 on Caserma Ederle in Vicenza, Italy. Telephone DSN 634-7000, FAX 634-7543, off post at 0444-71-7000, fax 0444-71-7543. E-mail: editor@setaf.army.mil

The Outlook is published weekly by the USAG Vicenza PAO, Unit 31401, Box 10, APO AE 09630. It is printed by Centro Stampa Editoriale SRL, Grisignano (VI) 0444-414-303. Editorial publication is an authorized section for members of the U.S. Army overseas. Contents of **The Outlook** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, Installation Management Agency-Europe, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza or the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force. **Submissions:** Send all submission for publication to editor@setaf.army.mil. Submissions should be made via e-mail and must be received by Wednesday at noon for the following week’s publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for style, brevity and clarity. Circulation is 2,500.

A game that can enhance Warrior skills?

Relieve stress, have fun with paintball

Story and photos
by Anna Vallery

Summer Hire
USAG Vicenza Public Affairs

You've had a stressful week at work and you need a way to relieve some of the frustration that has built up. USAG Vicenza's Outdoor Recreation has just the sport! Every Saturday, from 1-3 p.m., you can take your frustration out on your friends, who must be over age 18, at the paintball field.

Make sure you sign up at the

Outdoor Rec office by the Wednesday prior to the day you want to play.

The cost is \$29 and includes all equipment and a bag of 500 paintballs – plenty of ammunition to rid yourself of stress!

Don't have a free Saturday? Not a problem! Community members can also set up a session anytime by contacting Outdoor Rec one week in advance, according to Kobi Johnson, Recreational specialist for Outdoor Rec. To set up a private session, it costs \$49 plus all the paintballs used.

"Right now we'd really like the Soldiers to get together and use our program as a training aid," said Johnson. "As long as they give us a week's notice, they can set it up anytime."

How could a game of paintball be considered training? Just use a bit of imagination and basic rifle marksmanship skills.

The players are split up into two teams. Each team heads over to their side of the field. The field is set up with inflatable "bunkers" and wooden barriers to hide behind while playing.

When the referee gives the signal, the game begins.

Both teams run behind a barrier and try to hit the other team. As soon as you are hit, you

are out.

Which ever team gets all the other teams players out, wins.

There are several different variations to paintball games. You can make it to where you are only out if you are hit in the body or head, or any other rules the teams agree on. Usually the games only last two-to five minutes before everyone on one team is out and/or people need to refill on paintballs.

Just like during real military training, participants must wear protective gear.

In the case of paintball, players must wear a protective mask and it's advisable to wear heavy clothing that you don't mind getting splattered with paint and dirt. A few players wear special clothes designed just for playing paintball.

The 'weapon' used in paintball is called a "marker." There are many different types of markers, but the marker that Outdoor Rec provides is a Tippmann 98-custom.

Participants are allowed to bring personal markers if they wish.

The next time you need to vent frustrations in a fun and positive way, or perhaps you want to work on your marksmanship skills, call Outdoor Rec at 634-7453, or stop by for more information. Outdoor Rec is located across from the Shoppette parking lot.



Kobie Johnson (left), Outdoor Recreation recreational specialist, helps Stephen King set up his marker before the paintball game begins.



Above: Michael Ftacek shoots on the run during a Saturday paintball game on Caserma Ederle. Below: Ftacek shoots while teammate Stephen King runs for cover.



Soldiers' Theatre wins awards for "A Tolstoy Story"

By Ross Daniels
Theater Director
Soldiers' Theatre

A group of Caserma Ederle community members returned to post with awards they received as the official USA representatives at the American Association of Community Theatre International Theatre Festival.

The festival, which occurs every four years, was hosted by Midland Community Theatre July 12-15.

"The Tolstoy Story Play" won honors in Excellence in Acting for Sgt. Michael Heyer, Excellence in Directing for Karen Ebert, Excellence in Youth Acting for Jamie Kamiya, and Excellence in Acting Ensemble for the entire group.

The Soldiers' Theatre production of "The Tolstoy Story Play" won recognition with "Best Play" at last year's IMA-E One Act Play Fest in Heidelberg, Germany, before being selected to participate at the International Fest.

Soldiers' Theatre participants included active duty military, family members, and civilians.



Lion Shake 07



Oct. 17

On Tuesday, Oct. 17, the Vicenza military community will practice its emergency response procedures during the annual Lion Shake 07 antiterrorism exercise.

This exercise replicates a real emergency and will disrupt normal day-to-day operations.

Impacts to you could include:

- ❖ Gate closures on the installation and Villaggio
- ❖ Restricted vehicle and walking movement around the installation and surrounding areas: Caserma Ederle, Longare, Lerino, Torri and Villaggio
- ❖ Temporary closures of offices and service activities for all units and organizations on Caserma Ederle

If you are on the installation on Oct. 17, you may end up participating in the exercise.

Exercise Lion Shake 07 is a valuable tool to help the community be better prepared to handle emergencies.

The command thanks all units, agencies and the Vicenza military community in advance for supporting this exercise.

Gotcha!

Military working dogs are force multipliers, best friends

Story and photos by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

Dogs can be more than just man's best friend. On Caserma Ederle and Camp Darby, they are also part of the working staff, helping out in duties such as patrols and explosives and narcotics detection.

"This week we are conducting a Military Working Dog certification on Caserma Ederle," said Sgt. 1st Class Anthony J. Bly, SETAF MWD Kennel Master, who supervises nine military working dog teams and coordinates the MWD Program in the SETAF footprint (Vicenza and Darby). "The certification is an annual process where military working dog teams are evaluated on their performance and the detection of explosives or narcotics, as well as the patrol aspect of the military working dogs job."

Three patrol explosives dog teams and two patrol narcotic teams were evaluated during the certification exam held on post Aug. 7-10 by the USAREUR MWD Program manager certification authority, Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Throckmorton, said Bly.

The teams are tested in a multitude of different spots, such as warehouses, cinemas and open fields, before they take the certification test.

"Once the certification is done, they can be utilized in the community as a force protection asset," Bly.

But the road to becoming certified is a long one for man and beast alike. The dogs are usually around two years of age when purchased and are in the military system for 10-12 years.

"The military purchases dogs through breeders," said Bly. "They must undergo a health screening and once the health screening is completed then they go to Lackland Air Force Base, [Texas] where they receive the initial training."

The period may vary from 90 to 100 days before they are assigned according to requests from different units and the entire cost can reach around \$15,000—including cost of the dog, medical treatment, and man hours for training, according to Bly.

"When they [dogs] get here, they get paired with the handler, who will take anywhere from one to two weeks focusing mostly on building a rapport with the dog," he continued. "The better the two get along, the better the team they make."

"They do a lot of playing, throwing the ball, having them bring the ball back to them. They brush them, they groom them, which is part of the daily health check each handler is taught in school. Dogs also need a lot of exercise, so we run with the dogs and we have an obstacle course where they jump over, they crawl through tunnels, they climb up and down high stairs," said Bly.

Each of the military working dogs has their own separate name, tattoo number, and microchip.

"In the event something should happen, and they get away or stolen, we can trace them," Bly added.

Handlers and military working dogs work very hard to maintain proficiency in order to assist in any number of operations wherever they are needed.

"Our primary mission is course certification, and after that we are as force protection asset for the community and for the provost marshal office to be utilized in a law enforcement role," Bly underlined.

"But we also support the Infantry units and other units wherever we are deployed. We have dog teams throughout the regions, and they are an asset Army wide. MWD teams have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan," he added.

While explaining the important role of the military working dogs and the responsibilities of their handlers in a variety of situations, from patrolling at night to searching in case of suspected presence of explosives and narcotics, Bly also recommended how people should approach these dogs.

"People in the community often approach us because they are curious, or because

"Most of the time, people can go up and pet the dog, but we do have dogs that are very protective and even though are trained to attack on command, they are also trained to protect the handler as well, so it is always better to announce that you are there before you pet the animal."

***—Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Bly
MWD Kennel Master***

they have a dog and they just love dogs," he said. "However, we ask is that you keep a safe distance and ask the handler, 'Is the dog approachable? Can I pet him?' before you get too close."

This is especially important for children to understand, he continued.

"When children approach the dog, they think it is like their next door neighbor's dog, and they just run up to him, so we have to be very careful."

"Most of the time, people can go up and pet the dog, but we do have dogs that are very protective and even though are trained to attack on command, they are also trained to protect the handler as well, so it is always better to announce that you are there before you pet the animal," he said.



Top: 13th Military Police Company Sgt. Dallas O'Dell (not seen) plays the role of decoy, while military working dog, Caesar, attacks on command. Caesar is commanded by his handler, Spc. Kenneth W. Johnson, 13th MP Co. Above: Johnson and Caesar perform training before undergoing the annual certification course that took place on post Aug. 7-10. Johnson and the dog form one of the military working dog teams and have been training together for a year. Dogs undergo training for a period of about three months at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas before arriving in the Vicenza and Livorno installations. Left: Staff Sgt. Brian Landis, Camp Darby, and military working dog, Ronnie, go through some tests during the Military Working Dog certification held on post Aug. 7-10.

Out & About

Editor's Note: The below 'out and about' covers two weeks due to next week's special Back to School edition.

Guided tours of Vicenza and Bassano

Show off your adopted home to your friends and family by taking a guided tour of Vicenza's historical center and villas. Tours take place on Saturday afternoons or Sunday mornings, depending on which tour is chosen. For full details and bookings in English visit the Web site www.vicenzae.org, clicking on "Palladio Per Mano" found on the right and scrolling to the English version. You will also find there are visits of Bassano organized. Tours can be taken through Oct. 1.

Visit a Maize

After introducing the "maze craze" to Utah and the western United States in 1996, the MAiZE has grown into the world's largest cornfield maze company. Now 10 years, more than 1,000 mazes, a Guinness record, and six countries later, the MAiZE has seen millions of people get lost in its corny creations. Continuing to expand the increasingly-popular form of agritainment, you can find one of them in the Veneto area, in Arlesega di Mestrino, which is located 2.5 km from the Grisignano A4 autostrada exit. Visiting this maze calls for suitable shoes to be worn, remember it's a corn field, especially for children. Owned by the Agriturismo Gallo Nero, which will open in October, the maze is open every weekend starting on Aug. 26 until Nov. 1; hours are from 11 a.m. to sundown. You will also find tables set up for a picnic. Cost: adults-5 euro, children 3-12 years of age-4 euro. Further information, directions and to see the maze lookup www.cornfieldmaze.com or www.agriturismogallonero.it

Other events

Opera in Quinto: In the gardens of Villa Thiene in Quinto Vicentino the opera "*La Boheme*" will be performed on Aug. 26 at 9 p.m. The philharmonic orchestra, from Mantova, will be conducted by Christian Maggio, and the chorus is from the city of Lecco. Tickets, with reserved seats are available at the Pizzeria Al Giardino in Quinto and cost 13 euro. Tickets for unreserved seating are available from the Pro Loco in Quinto or the Centro Musica store, 159 Corso Palladio and

cost 10 euro. **Vigardolo Sagra:** The sagra in Vigardolo, a fraction of Monticello Conte Otto, will be held Aug. 18-22. Find food tents serving fish, a lottery, and, in the elementary school, an art and craft exhibition. Soccer will be played, 5 players on each team at 8:30 p.m. each evening. **Art Exhibit:** In the main square, Vicenza, see paintings by the Italian artist Giancarlo Stella, on the ground floor of the *Basilica*, painted between 1964-2006. Open Tuesday-Sunday 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3-7 p.m. until Sept. 10. Entrance is free. **Fashion Show** in Vicenza's main square, *Piazza dei Signori*, on Aug. 26 at 9 p.m. Entrance is free. **Longare:** The *24th Marcia dei Tre Paesi*, march of three towns, will take place at 8-9 a.m. on Aug. 27, with a start point near the parish church. Walking distances are 5, 13, 22 km. The march is at your own pace and the route will cover some hilly areas. Cost is 1,50 euro or if you pay 3,50 euro at the end of the march you received a bottle of local wine. **Dinner under the stars** on *Corso Palladio* will take place on Sept. 8. Reservations can be made starting Aug. 28 by calling 0444-221-280. This date is when Vicenza celebrates it's city patron. Also find in the days preceding a large fun fair, last year held on *Campo Marzio*, the park opposite the train station as part of the celebrations. In the town of Bardolino, province of Verona, on Aug. 20 catch the antique market from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. held on *Lungo Riva Cornicello*. At 9 p.m. a Jazz concert by the University Big Band in *Piazza Matteotti* will take place. **Illusionist:** David Copperfield will tour Italy in October. You can spend an evening with him on Oct. 23 in Bologna, Oct. 25 in Torino or Oct 27-29 in Milan. **Antony & the Johnsons** will perform in *Teatro Romano* in Verona on Aug. 30. The English band **Pearl Jam** will play on Sept. 16 and Dracula Opera Rock will be performed on Sept. 21-22, both in Verona's Arena. The second round of the famous **Palio in Siena** is Aug. 16. Ten of Siena's 17 *contrade*, districts, compete in an exciting bareback horse race around Siena's central piazza filled with thousands of spectators. The winner gets the silk *palio*, banner. There will also be festivities and parades in the days prior to the race. The historical parade on Aug. 16

starts from the prefect's building between 3:30-4 p.m. to end at the race track. Further information, in Italian only, from www.ilpaliodisiena.com **Avoid museum lines when traveling:** Many major museums and sites in Italy have long lines for ticket sales, especially during the high season. You can avoid the lines and be sure of getting admission on the day you want by buying tickets ahead of time. Tickets for museums in Florence, e.g. Uffizi Gallery for example, were you will need to reserve a month ahead can be done by phoning 055-294-883. Cost of a ticket is 9.50 euro plus a 3 euro commission. Note that most museums are closed on Mondays. To see Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper in *Santa Maria delle Grazie* in Milano call 02-894-211-46. Tickets cost 9 euro plus a commission. The visit is limited to 15 minutes for groups of 25 people and you must have a reservation. The opera "*Giulietta e Romeo*" will be performed June 1-4, 2007, in Verona's Arena. Tickets available from Box Office Verona 045-801-1154 or www.ticketone.it

Discover Padova

Padova has got, like most other European cities, a Hop-on, Hop-off bus service for tourists. The red city sightseeing bus has 11 major visitor attractions including: *Basilica del Santo*, *Piazza delle Erbe*, the railway station, and *Prato della Valle*. Depending on the ticket you purchase, at any stage you can get off the bus and visit the site and get back on the next bus that passes to visit the next location. Tickets costs 10 euro. A tour of all the monuments with out getting off the bus costs 7,50 euro and lasts one hour. When you get on the bus you will be given headphones to listen to a commentary, which is in seven languages including English and Spanish. The service is in operation all year long, seven days a week, from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased on the bus or from the tourist office located on *Piazza del Santo*.

Relay race

Mark your calendar to get your running shoes on and participate in a relay race that will take you round *Lago di Fimon*, Lake Fimon, on Oct. 8, organized by the Alpini Sports Group in collaboration with the

Now Showing

Caserma Ederle Theater

Aug. 15	CLOSED	
Aug. 16	The Break Up (PG13)	7 p.m.
Aug. 17	The Break Up (PG13)	7 p.m.
Aug. 18	You, Me, and Dupree (PG13)	7 p.m.
	The Fast and Furious: Tokyo Drift (PG13)	9:45 p.m.
Aug. 19	Cars (G)	4 p.m.
	You, Me, and Dupree (PG13)	7 p.m.
Aug. 20	Cars (G)	4 p.m.
	The Fast and Furious: Tokyo Drift (PG13)	7 p.m.
Aug. 21	CLOSED	
Aug. 22	CLOSED	

Camp Darby Theater

Aug. 17	The Break Up (PG13)	6 p.m.
Aug. 18	The Fast and Furious: Tokyo Drift (PG13)	6 p.m.
Aug. 19	Superman Returns (PG13)	6 p.m.
Aug. 20	Click (PG13)	2 p.m.

Movie Synopsis

YOU, ME AND DUPREE - *Owen Wilson, Kate Hudson* - Carl and Molly Peterson are just starting their new life together—complete with a cute house, boring neighbors, stable jobs and the routines of newlywed existence. There's just one unfortunate hitch in their perfectly constructed new world. And his name's Dupree. Randy Dupree, Carl's oldest friend and perpetual bachelor, has found himself with nowhere to go after being fired. **THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS: TOKYO DRIFT** - *Lucas Black, Shad 'Bow Wow' Gregory Moss* - Sean Boswell is an outsider who attempts to define himself as a hot-headed, underdog street racer. Although racing provides a temporary escape from an unhappy home and the superficial world around him, it has also made Sean unpopular with the local authorities. To avoid jail time, Sean is sent to live with his gruff, estranged father, a career military-man stationed in Tokyo. **CARS** - *Owen Wilson, Paul Newman* - Lightning McQueen, a hotshot rookie race car driven to succeed, discovers that life is about the journey, not the finish line, when he finds himself unexpectedly detoured in the sleepy Route 66 town of Radiator Springs. On route across the country to the big Piston Cup Championship in California to compete against two seasoned pros, McQueen gets to know the town's offbeat characters—including Sally, a snazzy 2002 Porsche, Doc Hudson, a 1951 Hudson Hornet with a mysterious past, and Mater, a rusty but trusty tow truck voiced, who help him realize that there are more important things than trophies, fame and sponsorship. **CLICK** - *Adam Sandler, Christopher Walken* - A workaholic architect, who has been overlooking his family in favor of his career, comes across a universal remote that allows him to perform TiVo-like functions on his life, such as pausing events or fast-forwarding over them. When the remote begins creating its own memory and choosing what to fast-forward over, the man sees how much of his personal life has passed him by and realizes the importance of spending more time with his family. Admission: Adults age 12 and over \$4, children \$2. The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time. Tickets to blockbuster shows are presold at Baskin Robbins.

Arcugnano townhall. The race, In Memory of Gino Rosin, is divided into three fractions, each person runs 4,2 km. You can go by yourself and you will be put into a team or take two of your friends with you to form a team. Meeting place at the *piazzale*, square, at the lake at 8:30 a.m. with a start time of 9:30 a.m. The different team categories are: men with a total of 110 years; between 111-150 years and the over 151 years. There is only one category for females in other words young and old alike form a team. The cost of the relay is 15 euro for each team. There will be a T-shirt and a souvenir of the race for each participant. For details call Martino, 0444-530261, English is spoken.

Schuetzenschnur, Leistungsabzeichen translate to fun for 1-91 CAV

By Staff Sgt. Jacob Caldwell
173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team
Public Affairs

HAMMELBURG, Germany – It's not everyday that a Soldier gets the chance to do something that they truly enjoy, but Soldiers from the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment got the chance to do just that... and on the clock no less!

Participating in qualifications for the Schuetzenschnur and Leistungsabzeichen badges with the German Army July 24-27 at the German Army Regional Training Center South and Infantry School in Hammelburg proved to be the highlight of their tenure in the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team thus far.

Qualifying for the *Schuetzenschnur*, a weapons proficiency badge given by the German army, was a multi-day and multi-weapon event for the Soldiers. Depending on qualification scores, the badge is awarded with either a bronze, silver, or gold device and is worn with a cord by U.S. enlisted Soldiers on their class-A uniforms.

The 1-91 Soldiers qualified on the German P8 9 mm pistol, the G3



Soldiers of Alpha Troop, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, fire the MG3 7.62mm Machine Gun as part of the Schuetzenschnur German Army Marksmanship Badge Test July 26. The event was hosted by the Training Support Company, German Armed Forces U.N. Training Center in Hammelburg, Germany. (Photos courtesy of Capt. Kevin Calkins, 1-91 CAV Civil Affairs officer)



Above: Pfc. Lucas Carlisle, Charlie Troop, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, throws the 6.25 kilogram Kugel July 26 during the Leistungsabzeichen German Army Physical Fitness Badge Test, hosted by the Training Support Company, German Armed Forces U.N. Training Center in Hammelburg, Germany. Below: Pvt. Rusty Campbell, Alpha Troop, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, participates in the 200m swim test as part of the same test.



7.62 mm rifle, the G36 5.56 mm rifle, and the MG3 7.62 mm machine gun. All 26 Soldiers who participated qualified for a Schuetzenschnur badge.

While aiming for a Schuetzenschnur is a fairly common occurrence for the squadron, it happens once every couple of months or so, the chance to earn a *Leistungsabzeichen*, a German Army physical fitness badge, is a rare opportunity and proved to also be a greater challenge.

The Leistungsabzeichen is also a multi-day and multi-task event that German soldiers normally compete for over the course of a year, but 1-91 Soldiers squeezed it into four days. It also has bronze, silver and gold devices, but all of the Americans participating shot for the gold.

The events included testing the proficiency of first aid tasks, a 30km foot march in five hours, 100 and 400m sprints, a 3 km run, the choice between a 15-kilogram stone throw, 8-kilogram shot-put event, or a 100m swim, and topped off with a long jump, and a 200m swim. All events have a minimum standard per level of award.

With some very high standards being observed, only four qualified for the gold Leistungsabzeichen.

Anytime Soldiers get to train with their NATO counterparts, it's appreciated, according to Capt. Kevin Calkins, 1-91 CAV Civil Affairs officer and officer-in-control of the event.

"For the march, there was a lot of interaction," said Calkins. "Of course, there is a language barrier and most of it is on our side. German is not a commonly-taught language in American schools, but English is very common in German schools and most of the German soldiers are young and not that far out of high school and they were able to communicate on a basic level. But there was definitely a comradery among them."

Interaction is one thing, but what about the events themselves?

"They loved it! After the 30km foot march, I had some Soldiers come up to me and, even though their feet were like hamburger, they said it was the greatest time they have had in the army," said Calkins. "They get the chance to get away from post, away from the normal training, and they get to do something different and fun in a more relaxed environment, something they don't normally get to do."



Left: Pfc. Joseph Mingo(left), Bravo Troop, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, marches with FW Florian Beetz (right) during the 30km foot march July 24 as part of the Leistungsabzeichen German Army Physical Fitness Badge Test. The multi-day, multi-task event was hosted by the Training Support Company, German Armed Forces U.N. Training Center in Hammelburg, Germany.